

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-152. (canceled)

153. (currently amended) A method for enhancing game play on a gaming machine, the method comprising:

~~providing at least one game on a gaming machine that is capable of receiving a new promotional award that is not redeemable for free game play, wherein the new promotional award is configured to alter game play of at least one game, and wherein the new promotional award is given to a player to encourage game play on the gaming machine;~~

receiving the a new promotional award from the player, wherein the promotional award is configured to change one or more rules of the game by adding one or more game features thereby altering the game from a base game state to an enhanced game state;

~~determining whether the new promotional award is applicable to at least one the game on the gaming machine, wherein the new promotional award is configured to work on predetermined gaming machines; and~~

reconfiguring the game play of the at least one game from the base state to the enhanced state in response to the new promotional award.

154. (currently amended) The method of claim 153, wherein the new promotional award includes time restriction data having a predetermined, fixed expiration date for the new promotional award.

155. (currently amended) The method of claim 153, wherein the new promotional award includes location restriction data that restricts use of the new promotional award to a predetermined location or a predetermined set of locations.

156. (currently amended) The method of claim 153, wherein the new promotional award includes gaming device restriction data that restricts use of the new promotional award to a particular game, a set of related games, a family of games, or a predetermined subset of games.

157. (previously presented) The method of claim 153, wherein reconfiguring the at least one game further comprises providing additional pay lines to the game, adding additional winning indicia to the game, triggering a secondary game, or any combination thereof.

158. (currently amended) The method of claim 153, wherein reconfiguring the at least one game further comprises providing a new pay table for the game in response to the new promotional award.

159. (previously presented) The method of claim 153, wherein reconfiguring the at least one game further comprises applying a multiplier to any winning outcomes of the game.

160. (currently amended) The method of claim 153, further comprising issuing a new promotional award to the player during a gaming session.

161. (currently amended) The method of claim 153, further comprising issuing a new promotional award to the player at the conclusion of a gaming session.

162. (currently amended) A method for enhancing game play on a gaming machine, the method comprising:

~~providing at least one game on a gaming machine that is capable of receiving new promotional data that is not redeemable for free game play, wherein the new promotional data is configured to alter game play of at least one game, and wherein the new promotional data is given to a player to encourage game play on the gaming machine;~~

~~receiving player input that includes new promotional data, wherein the promotional data is configured to change one or more rules of the game by adding one or more game features thereby altering the game from a base game state to an enhanced game state;~~

~~determining whether the new promotional data is applicable to at least one the game on the gaming machine, wherein the new promotional award is configured to work on predetermined gaming machines; and~~

~~reconfiguring, if applicable, the at least one game in response to the new promotional data.~~

163. (previously presented) The method of claim 162, wherein receiving player input further comprises:

accepting player identification; and

retrieving new promotional data that is associated with the player identification.

164. (currently amended) The method of claim 162, wherein the new promotional award includes time restriction data having a predetermined, fixed expiration date for the new promotional award.

165. (currently amended) The method of claim 162, wherein the new promotional award includes location restriction data that restricts use of the new promotional award to a predetermined location or a predetermined set of locations.

166. (currently amended) The method of claim 162, wherein the new promotional award includes gaming device restriction data that restricts use of the new promotional award to a particular game, a set of related games, a family of games, or a predetermined subset of games.

167. (previously presented) The method of claim 162, wherein reconfiguring the at least one game further comprises providing additional pay lines to the game, adding additional winning indicia to the game, triggering a secondary game, or any combination thereof.

168. (currently amended) The method of claim 162, wherein reconfiguring the at least one game further comprises providing a new pay table for the game in response to the new promotional award.

169. (previously presented) The method of claim 162, wherein reconfiguring the at least one game further comprises applying a multiplier to any winning outcomes of the game.

170. (currently amended) The method of claim 162, further comprising issuing a new promotional award to the player during a gaming session.

171. (currently amended) The method of claim 162, further comprising issuing a new promotional award to the player at the conclusion of a gaming session.